

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) A double-deck elevator, comprising:
an upper cage and a lower cage for accommodating passengers and vertically movable together in a hoistway provided in a building; [[and]]
covers for covering a space between the upper cage and the lower cage at a doorside, two lateral sides and a backside of the space;
~~wherein at least one of the covers which covers the space at the doorside of the space is positioned closer to a doorside inner wall of the hoistway than a door driving unit~~ provided in the space which opens and closes for opening and closing at least one door [[doors]] of the lower cage; and [[cages]]
at least one connecting link for connecting the door to the door-driving unit;
wherein at least one of the covers which covers the space at the doorside of the space covers the door driving unit and a top portion of the connecting link and has a first portion extending downwardly from the upper cage and positioned closer to a doorside inner wall of the hoistway than the door driving unit, and a second portion extending from the first portion to the door driving unit and including at least one slit through which the connecting link is inserted.

29. (Currently Amended) A double-deck elevator according to claim 28, further comprising a closing member for closing a clearance between a periphery of the slit and the connecting link ~~wherein said at least one of the covers which covers the space at the doerside is provided with at least one slit through which at least one door link for connecting the door to the door driving unit is inserted.~~

30. (Currently Amended) A double-deck elevator according to claim 29, ~~further comprising a closing member for closing a clearance between a periphery of the slit and the door link,~~ wherein said closing member ~~[[being]]~~ is made of an elastic material and ~~allowing~~ allows a displacement of said door link by an elastic deformation thereof.

31. (Currently Amended) A double-deck elevator according to claim 29, ~~further comprising a closing member for closing a clearance between a periphery of the slit and the door link,~~ wherein said closing member ~~[[being]]~~ is formed as a bellows and ~~allowing~~ allows a displacement of said door link by an elastic expansion and contraction thereof.

32. (Currently Amended) A double-deck elevator according to claim 29, ~~further comprising a closing member for closing a clearance between a periphery of the slit and the door link,~~ wherein said closing member ~~[[being]]~~ is formed as a brush type and ~~allowing~~ allows a displacement of the door link by an elastic deflection thereof.